

REMARKS

This Supplemental Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated May 19, 2004 and the Advisory Action dated February 18, 2005, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, entry and consideration of this Supplemental Amendment are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 8-20 have been objected to but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ikeda (USP 5,138,443). Claims 3-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda in view of Haraguchi (USP 6,222,613).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 20. Claim 20 has consequently been canceled. Therefore, claim 1 and its dependent claims should be deemed allowable. Further, Applicant submits that the application is now in a condition for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

U.S. APPLN. NO.: 09/618,162

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q58736

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

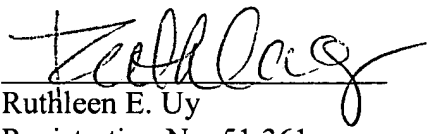
Respectfully submitted,

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